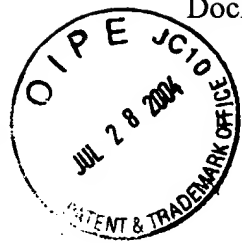


IFW AF/2823

Corres. and Mail  
**BOX AF**

Docket No.: 50195-257

PATENT



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116**  
**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

In re Application of

Customer Number: 20277

Norihiko KIRITANI

Confirmation Number: 7093

Application No.: 09/817,154

Group Art Unit: 2823

Filed: March 27, 2001

Examiner: F. Toledo

For: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING SILICON CARBIDE DEVICE AND  
OXIDATION FURNACE

**AMENDMENT and REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**  
**UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a response to the final Office Action dated May 4, 2004, in the above-referenced patent application has been amended as set forth below.

Please cancel claim 17 without prejudice or disclaimer. Also, please cancel claims 19 and 20 without prejudice or disclaimer subject to Applicant's right to file a divisional application on the non-elected invention.